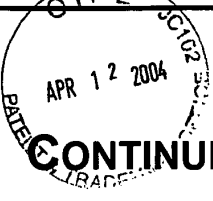


Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

 <h2 style="text-align: center;">REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).</p>	Application Number	09/895,184
	Filing Date	July 2, 2001
	First Named Inventor	MICHINORI SHINKAI
	Group Art Unit	2612
	Examiner Name	S. H. Lee
	Attorney Docket Number	03500.015633.

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

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1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. ☐ Previously submittedi. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____iii. ☐ Other _____b. ☒ Enclosedi. ☐ Amendment/Replyii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)iv. ☒ Other Preliminary Amendment

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01 FC:1801
02 FC:1202770.00 OP
432.00 OP

2. Miscellaneous

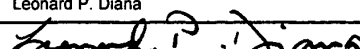
a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

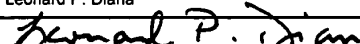
a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. _____i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)iii. ☒ Other Additional Claim Fee _____b. ☒ Checks in the amount of \$ 770.00 and \$ 432.00 are enclosedc. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Leonard P. Diana	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	29,296
Signature		Date	April 7, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)	Leonard P. Diana	Date	April 7, 2004
Signature			

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Director of the U.S.P.T.O., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

In re Application of:

MICHINORI SHINKAI

Appln. No.: 09/895,184

Filed: July 2, 2001

For: DISCOUNTING SYSTEM, DISCOUNTING
DEVICE, DISCOUNTING METHOD,
DISCOUNTING PROGRAM, RECORD
MEDIUM, CARTRIDGE, PRINT CONTROLLER,
PRINT CONTROL METHOD, AND PRINT
CONTROL PROGRAM

Docket No. 03500.015633.

Examiner: S.H. Lee

Group Art Unit: 2876

Date: April 7, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Technology Center 2600

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

☐ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(4) HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	* 64	MINUS	** 40	= 24	x \$9 \$18	\$432.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	* 16	MINUS	*** 17	= 0	x \$43 \$86	\$0
Fee for Multiple Dependent claims \$145°/\$290						\$0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT---						\$432.00

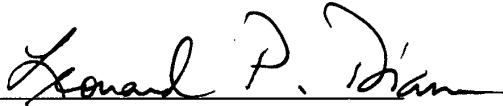
* If the entry in Column 2 is less than the entry in Column 4, write "0" in Column 5.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

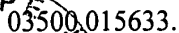
- ☐ °Verified Statement claiming small entity status is enclosed, if not filed previously.
- ☒ A check in the amount of \$ 432.00 is enclosed.
- ☐ Charge \$____ to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ Any prior general authorization to charge an issue fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.18 to Deposit Account No. 06-1205 is hereby revoked. The Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required during the entire pendency of this application, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the Extension fee for response with a____-month extension is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$____ to cover the Information Disclosure Statement fee is enclosed.
- ☒ Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100 or by facsimile at (212) 218-2200. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 29,296

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10132-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
NY MAIN420019



APR 12 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Examiner: S.H. Lee

MICHINORI SHINKAI

Group Art Unit: 2876

Application No.: 09/895,184

Filed: July 2, 2001

For: DISCOUNTING SYSTEM,
DISCOUNTING DEVICE,
DISCOUNTING METHOD,
DISCOUNTING PROGRAM, RECORD
MEDIUM, CARTRIDGE, PRINT
CONTROLLER, PRINT CONTROL
METHOD, AND PRINT CONTROL
PROGRAM

April 7, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

A Notice Of Allowance issued in the above-identified application on January 7, 2004. The issue fee has not yet been paid, and a Request For Continued Examination (RCE) is being filed concurrently herewith.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

April 7, 2004
(Date of Deposit)

Leonard P. Diana (Reg. No. 29,296)
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

Signature Jul P. Dine

April 7, 2004

Date of Signature

Preliminary to continued examination, please amend the above-identified application in the following manner. Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing beginning on page 3, and the Remarks begin at page 23.